

هذا من الجبل

Abu Mahmoud: a lifetime of stone carving

EDITOR'S NOTE: This is the second in a series of articles on handicrafts in Jordan.

Text and photos
By Mohammad Ayish
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — "I learned the craft when I was just a child in the Bethlehem area, but stone carving was still a hobby for me until I began to do sculpture for commercial reasons some 3 years ago," said Mr. Mohammad Shannoudeh (Abu Mahmoud), a stone worker who believes he is the only one of his kind in the country.

I began my experience with stone by working out some simple things such as small ashtrays and coffee cups," Abu Mahmoud told the Jordan Times. But, now he seems to have mastered the craft, he said that it became for him no longer just a hobby, but a profitable business.

Although Abu Mahmoud spends most of his time on stone work at his humble residence, he sometimes feels that he works "for no reward," since he is always sure that everything he does will be bought by his sole customer, the Jordan Handicrafts Development Centre Company.

When a visitor asked to see samples of his work, Abu Mahmoud and his wife, instead of taking him into an exhibition room, took only a few minutes to show all the samples. They were scattered somewhere near the fence or a thick layer of dust.

Some of these pieces have been here for three or four years, others for two years or one," Shannoudeh, a mother of five, said. But it is still our hobby to make things out of stone, despite the fact the market is dull," she said, being asked whether it was a good idea to do such work for a living.

I need a place to display my work in, and most importantly I need encouragement so as to continue in this trade," Abu Mahmoud said. He added that he had taken part in seven craft exhibitions in Jordan, and four years ago, he made a stone plaque commemorating His Majesty King Hussein's silver jubilee.

At present, my work is sold to the Jordan Handicrafts Development Centre Company, which usually purchase my crafts in accordance with their promotion programme," he said. But other handicraft shops always reject his pieces, because these shops prefer ancient, rather than new, work. "You see that turtle I made... it would have been worth 50 had it come from ancient times; but since I made it here, it costs JD 5," he said as he pointed to a stone turtle displayed among the other sculptures.

Asked why he does not apply to the Industrial Development Bank (IDB) for a loan, Abu Mahmoud said he had never thought of doing so since he does not "like to bear the burden of debt. Besides, I don't know how to use the money," he said, adding that all he needs is a place -- any

place -- where I can display my crafts and establish contacts with customers, particularly foreign ones.

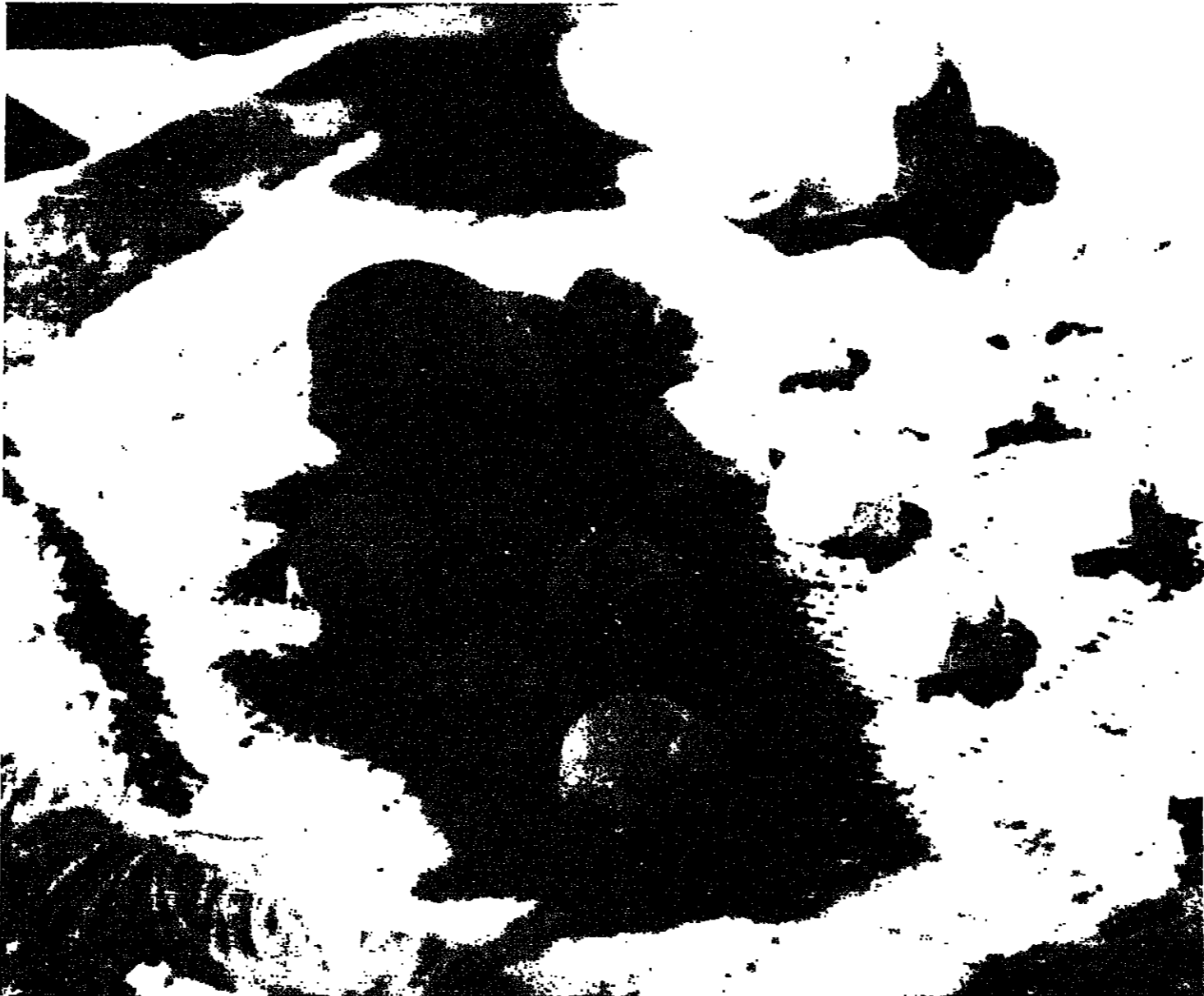
"At present, I only make an average of JD 30 a month, which does not suffice for a 12-member family and rent," Abu Mahmoud sighed.

Having himself now mastered the craft thoroughly, Abu Mahmoud is concerned about its continuity within the family.

"You see these birds and little turtles, it was me who made them. It takes me two days to make a bird out of stone," Mariam Shannoudeh said as she arranged a group of carved turtles and fledgling birds she had made.

She told the Jordan Times that she learned the craft from her husband, and likes to spend time at it, despite the burdens of caring for a big family. She also makes stone rings and tiny *kohl* jars, as well as stone bracelets.

For some craftsmen, the dissolution of the craftsmen's cooperative some years ago was a loss, but for Abu Mahmoud it did not make any difference. "The



Family of tiny turtles carved by Abu Mahmoud's wife Mariam

cooperative asked me to become a member," he said, "but by then I did not have the money to pay dues."

"All I needed was financial and

moral support from them." Abu Mahmoud's carvings reflect the Jordanian culture in general, and nature in particular. He said he makes vases of all kinds

and shapes, pipes, rings, bracelets and waterpipes. "Not all of them are used, like their counterparts made of other materials, but they add a touch of beauty to places," he said.

Another category includes birds of all types, particularly pigeons, turtles, and other animals. "I can make images of all things,

except human beings, because it is religiously banned," Abu Mahmoud said. Thus he has no ambition to become a great portrait sculptor. But he seems satisfied with his work, and confident of the creativity he introduces into it, despite his severe need for a display place and for moral encouragement.

Our nation's crafts

A Jordan Times in-depth series

While without ambition to be a great sculptor, Abu Mahmoud has produced some pieces like this stone head.



Stone plaque carved for the occasion of King Hussein's silver jubilee



Abu Mahmoud: "I only make an average of JD 30 a month, which does not suffice for a 12-member family and rent."

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GENERAL ELECTRIC

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MIDDLE EAST

Jordanian option' a myth - Yamani

By *John Rowley*

CAIRO, May 3 (R) — Saudi Oil Minister Sheikh Zaki Yamani said in an interview published today he does not believe in a new Middle East peace treaty after Israeli elections.

Yamani told the Beirut 'English-language weekly Monday Morning' that it should differ from the peace treaty of former President Jimmy Carter, based on the Camp David accords between Israel and the United States.

"So far, the (Reagan) administration has not placed enough emphasis on the Arab-Israeli conflict, but we think that attitude will change in a few months, after the Israeli elections," he said.

"We are hopeful that they (the Americans) will then be in a position to start taking steps toward a new peace treaty, and that the steps will differ from the Camp David avenue."

Yamani said the next step could not



Sheikh Ahmad Zaki Yamani

is based on a so-called Jordanian option of bringing Amman into the peace process.

"The Jordanians themselves don't think of it as an option. How can it exist without the Jordanians themselves believing in it?" he asked.

Sheikh Yamani spoke of the possibility of war if the Americans did not act. "You cannot measure how long it will take the region to

explode, but of course, the sooner action is taken the better," he said.

"You cannot ignore the fact that Arab territories are under occupation and that the whole nation is living without hope. You cannot live like this forever."

The Saudi minister said he expected an initiative by the 10-nation European Economic Community to achieve some results.

"We think that the historical relationship between Europe and the Arab World is much stronger than the relationship between the Arabs and any other major power or group of powers, which puts the EEC in a good position to take the initiative with regard to the Arab-Israeli conflict and the Middle East as a whole."

He said the EEC initiative stopped for some time, probably because there was a new administration in America, "but we think it will start again and it will bear some fruit."

Sadat frees four opponents, raises wages, food subsidies

CAIRO, May 3 (R) — Egyptian President Anwar Sadat yesterday raised public employees' wages by at least 20 per cent, boosted food subsidies and said he was freeing four jailed political opponents, including former vice-president Ali Sabri.

Mr. Sadat told a worker's May Day rally near the industrial city of Helwan he was decreasing an amnesty for Mr. Sabri and three other leftists sentenced for life 10 years ago for plotting against Mr. Sadat in the power struggle that followed the death of President Gamal Abdel Nasser in 1970.

Mr. Sadat said increased oil revenues and Suez Canal earnings enabled him to raise the public employees' monthly minimum wage from 20 to 25 Egyptian Pounds (\$36).

Government subsidies on essential goods such as bread, meat, rice and cooking oil will go up



Mr. Ali Sabri

from 1.5 billion Egyptian Pounds to two billion Pounds (\$2.9 billion) during the year starting July 1, he said.

Yesterday's package was one of the biggest for years, and the president said a law he was tabling in parliament would assure that wage increases in the public sector also applied to the private sector.

With new allowances taken into account, some Egyptians' earnings would go up 60 per cent.

State pensions were raised between 10 and 30 per cent, increasing the lowest pension to 20 Egyptian Pounds (\$29) a month.

Mr. Sadat did not say how much the package would cost his government.

The others to be released with Mr. Sabri are former minister of presidential affairs Mr. Sami Sharaf, former information minister Mr. Mohammad Fayek and Mr. Farid Abdel Karim, former official of the Arab Socialist Union, the sole political party at the time.

This economic package has been expected for some weeks.

A year ago, President Sadat pledged to devote most of his efforts to improving the country's economy.

An aide described the measures as a result of improvement in the economy which for the first time in several years registered a balance of payments surplus of about one billion dollars last year.

MIDDLE EAST BRIEFS

Iran seizes ship, Kuwait demands inquiry

BAHRAIN, May 3 (R) — Kuwait has demanded an inquiry into the seizure last week by Iran of a Panamanian-registered oil survey ship working at the head of the Gulf, the Iranian ambassador to Kuwait, Dr. Ali Shams Ardekani, said today.

He told Reuters by telephone from Kuwait that the Kuwaitis had said the ship had been ordered by Iran to sail to an Iranian port, which he understood to be Bushire, last Thursday.

Dr. Shams said his government had told Kuwait that the ship, the Western Sea, had entered waters at the head of the Gulf designated a war zone by Iran and Iraq at the start of the Gulf war last September. He said the seismicographic survey ship was working for a Kuwaiti company and had been previously warned not to operate in the area.

Dr. Shams said he understood the crew of the ship were in good health. He had no further details. In London, a spokesman for the ship's American owners, the Western Geophysical Company, said the Western Sea was anchored today outside the Iranian port of Bushire. Its crew of 19, including 11 Britons, were on board the ship and were safe and in good shape. The survey vessel had been on charter to the Kuwaiti National Oil Company (KNOC) and the company was trying to obtain its release through the offices of the Kuwaiti authorities, the spokesman said.

Waldheim to discuss Afghanistan in Moscow

UNITED NATIONS, May 3 (R) — Secretary-General Kurt Waldheim is expected to renew efforts to get Soviet troops out of Afghanistan during a four-day visit to the Soviet Union beginning tomorrow.

Mr. Waldheim has a mandate from the General Assembly to search for a solution to the problem of Afghanistan. The assembly has twice called for the immediate withdrawal of "the foreign troops" from the country.

Mr. Waldheim's special emissary who recently visited Kabul, will be in the party for the secretary-general's first visit to Moscow since May, 1979. It follows a trip to Washington on Thursday in which Mr. Waldheim had his first substantive meeting with President Reagan.

They discussed the Soviet intervention in Afghanistan, as well as the conflict in Lebanon. The United States has been seeking Soviet cooperation in attempts to reduce the Lebanese tension, and Mr. Waldheim is considered certain to discuss the problem with Soviet leaders.

Soviet leaders are expected to seek Mr. Waldheim's advice on President Brezhnev's proposal for a summit session of the U.N. Security Council, which the secretary-general has applauded, and for a world conference on disarmament under U.N. auspices. This is the final year of Mr. Waldheim's second five-year term in office, and U.N. diplomats expect he may test Soviet support for an unprecedented third term. He has not announced whether he is available for re-election, but it is widely believed he wants to carry on, at least for another two or three years.

There is no set term, but five-year periods have become the custom for the secretary-general. If Mr. Waldheim is re-elected, he will become the longest-serving U.N. chief. His predecessor, Mr. U Thant, served 10 years before stepping down in 1971 because of poor health. Mr. Waldheim was the choice of the Soviet Union and France to succeed Mr. U Thant, but he was vetoed by the United States, Britain and China, which preferred Mr. Max Jakobson of Finland. The states later 'dropped their vetoes to let him in. In 1976, the Chinese cast one veto, but he was endorsed by the Security Council in the second round of voting.

Kreisky to head high-powered delegation to Riyadh

VIENNA, May 3 (A.P.) — Chancellor Bruno Kreisky, leading a high-powered Austrian economics delegation, is scheduled to pay an official visit to Saudi Arabia May 5-7, his office reported today.

The Austrian government, a purchaser of Saudi crude oil, is seeking to transact business with the Riyadh government and finalise a number of pending projects.

Unlike West German Chancellor Helmut Schmidt, sources here said, the Austrians are seeking to win a contract for the shipment to Saudi Arabia of light battle tanks. Chancellor Kreisky, who will be accompanied by lawmakers, senior government officials and representatives of the thirteen Austrian firms, last visited Saudi Arabia Feb. 2-4, 1980.

Gandhi to discuss region security during visit to Gulf

KUWAIT, May 3 (R) — Indian Prime Minister Indira Gandhi, who visits Kuwait and the United Arab Emirates (UAE) this month, has said in an interview that the security of the Gulf was important to the whole world.

She told the Kuwait Times that the area's importance meant her talks in the Gulf would go beyond bilateral relations to how the situation in the region affected the rest of the world.

Mrs. Gandhi said invitations to oil states to invest in India had produced encouraging results but oil exporters could still do more to help developing countries.

Rural Egypt takes to the Pill

By *John Rowley*

family planning experiment which began in an Egyptian village 12 years ago has been so successful that it is now being extended to an area containing a quarter of the rural population of Egypt.

John Rowley, the Editor of People, the international population and development magazine, reports:

Twelve years ago an experimental family planning project was launched at Shanawan, an Egyptian village of some 14,000 people on the banks of the Nile, 60 kilometres north of Cairo.

Today, the fruits of that experiment have spread to all the 32 villages of the rural governorate of Menoufia with a population of 1.4

million, and it has now been agreed to expand similar activities to four additional governorates with 6 million people — over quarter the rural population of Egypt.

The moving spirit behind this success story is Dr. Saad Gadalla, Director of the Social Research Centre in Cairo, who began work in Shanawan in 1969 and has since built up a programme, in which

the distribution of contraceptives and the provision of clinic services is based on a people-centred approach to village health care and development.

By mobilising the people in various development activities, and encouraging them to make their needs known to local officials, Dr. Gadalla was able to launch a Pill distribution programme in Shanawan which helped to push up the contraceptive practice rate from 15 to 30 per cent and to reduce pregnancies by 21 per cent in a country where population is pressing hard against the available land.

In the first part of the expanded experiment, in the 38 villages near Shanawan, household delivery of contraceptives was made to two

groups each of 100,000 people. In the first the re-supply of contraceptives was made free of charge, but in the second a small charge was made. Experiments were also made to see if greater success was obtained by providing a continuing supply of contraceptives in the clinics, or through a local community distributor.

Special efforts were also made to see that the local doctors, social workers, family planning and other officials were trained and actively involved in the project.

According to Dr. Gadalla the results were "very favourable" with contraceptive practice in the villages increasing from 18 to 29 per cent.

Dr. Gadalla stresses that a key element in the success of this experiment

was the education and training of the doctors to attend to the needs of the users, not only about family planning but about child care and health problems in general.

"We bridged the gap between the physician and the community. We got the physician out of the four walls of the clinic, we made the community more enlightened about the role of the physician and we gave the physician a more satisfactory and fulfilling role in a healthy atmosphere rather than a sick one."

The success of the extended project led the Governor of Menoufia to request that it should be extended throughout the Governorate. But in doing so two essential conditions were agreed. It was decided that outside funding from the United States aid agency should bypass the central government bureaucracy and be sent directly to the project through the Governor, thus ensuring that it got through to the rural villages. It was the first agreement in Egypt to be signed between USAID and a local administrator.

It was also agreed that, as in the previous work, the views and needs of the village communities should be the lynchpin of the operation, and that the whole action should start with the involvement of the local people.

As a result committees were formed for every group of villages that are served by a health unit. These include the heads of village councils, the doctors, the social workers, community leaders, family planning workers and the community development workers.

"It is the committee that is in charge of mobilising the community, discussing the appropriate health, social welfare and family planning services, selecting the girls or women in the community who will carry out the household distribution of contraceptives and

informing women about IUDs, as well as about the treatment of diarrhoea", says Dr. Gadalla.

"We have also started activities for social welfare including nurseries, women's clubs, workshop training for school dropouts, and illiteracy classes for women — all asked for by the community. In providing these services as a requested package the people know how each one relates to the other. It is no longer a question of the doctor pulling in one direction, and the social worker or the village council in others: They are all endorsing and implanting services which the people have asked for."

Dr. Gadalla also points out that the project is not seen as an AID project, or something handed down by the Ministry or university, but as a people's project, with all the pride that involves. Even the governorate officials involved volunteer their time out of official hours to manage the work.

As a result, he says, "we have encountered no problems whatsoever in our outreach programmes and in the people's acceptance of contraceptives. For example, we have nurseries in villages which enrolled 100 children within a month. We have literacy classes with as many as 30 to 50 women. We have evening classes in handicrafts where the women also learn to write and where we talk about family planning, nutrition and child health. The participation in all these activities is very encouraging."

In the expansion of the project to cover a total population of over 6 million Dr. Gadalla's team will be involving national universities and research institutes to do what his own institution has done in Menoufia and will be providing technical assistance to government officials.



The pill distribution programme in Shanawan helped to reduce pregnancies by 21 per cent in a country where population is pressing hard against the available land.

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ECONOMY

Yamani predicts unified oil pricing

BEIRUT, May 3 (R) — Saudi Arabian Oil Minister Sheikh Ahmad Zaki Yamani was quoted today as saying he expected the 13-member Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) to agree on a unified pricing structure sometime this year.

But in an interview with the Beirut English-language weekly Monday Morning, he said he was not optimistic about agreement being reached at an OPEC conference due to take place in Geneva at the end of this month.

Asked if Saudi Arabia would be pressing for lower uniform oil prices at the conference, Sheikh Yamani said: "That is our hope, but we are not optimistic that we will realise it in May. However, if it doesn't happen in May, it will

happen sometime this year."

He did not want a reduction in the present base price of \$32 a barrel, but some producers had gone above that level.

"We think that the OPEC members which have gone above the base price will perhaps reduce their prices, because already the market price of their crude is much lower than the official prices they are charging. However, it's up to them. The decision is theirs," he said.

Sheikh Yamani, interviewed in Amman, said: "Production will definitely come down everywhere if we have a unified price system. The market forces, given a unified price, will cut down the level of production in every member country, including Saudi Arabia."

A unified price structure was likely to be agreed sometime this year "because once we get through the summer, which is the most difficult period, then the producers will be in a better position to make that decision."

The oil minister said that if the Iran-Iraq war ended, both countries would start producing at a sizeable capacity.

"Should a sizeable surplus develop, OPEC would have rather a difficult time facing the situation, trying to bring the level of production down to the level of demand. The price level would probably come down as well."

He added: "If it (the war) does not end, and if it does not escalate, we will continue to have a small surplus in 1982—probably a bit

larger than this year's surplus. This will entail some pressure on the price structure, but OPEC will be in a better position to face that situation."

He said Iraq was currently producing a little under one million barrels of oil a day.

Asked about damage to Iraqi and Iranian oil installations as a result of the Gulf war, he said: "We don't think that the damage is sizeable. We think that if the war comes to an end, the two nations will be able to raise production, producing at least six million barrels a day between them."

"That would enable them to rebuild their economies, but... it would also increase the surplus on the market."

ECONOMIC NEWS BRIEFS

Soviets plan railway link across Caucasus mountains

MOSCOW, May 3 (R) — The Soviet Union is planning a railway across the Caucasus mountains that will cut the route between Moscow and the Georgian capital of Tbilisi by 1,000 km, a Soviet newspaper said.

The new rail link, in the final planning stage but apparently not yet approved, would improve significantly the Soviet Union's freight routes to Iran and Turkey.

The paper, *Sotsialisticheskaya Industriya*, quoted Project Engineer Sranishvili as saying the planned route would cross the Arkhot Pass, 2,400 metres above sea-level and would involve drilling 40 km of tunnels.

The Transcaucasian Republics of Georgia, Armenia and Azerbaijan are at present linked to the rest of the Soviet Union by two coastal rail links which skirt the mountains.

The report gave no estimate of the likely cost of the project or how long it would take to complete.

'Watch the glut', OAPEC warns

KUWAIT, May 3 (R) — The continuing world oil surplus of alarm Arab oil producing countries, the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OAPEC) said today.

The surplus pointed to further exhaustion of Arab oil reserves put downward pressure on oil prices and could lead to a competition between producing countries, OAPEC said in a monthly bulletin.

The recent glut on the world market signalled a growing one which favoured consuming countries, an editorial said. OAPEC groups nearly all the Arab oil exporting nations.

Saudi Oil Minister Ahmed Zaki Yamani said last month in New York that Saudi Arabia had engineered the glut by increasing production to stabilise world oil prices. Saudi Arabia also was the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEP) agree a long-term pricing strategy.

The OAPEC editorial said major industrial countries had succeeded in harmonising their oil policies, trimming consumption while coordinating their purchases of oil.

"The question therefore arises whether the producers are able of coordinating their oil policies by regulating and planning their pricing and production levels in a manner which protects them against market fluctuations and prolongs the life-span of their reserves," the bulletin editorial said.

\$13b surplus in new Saudi budget

JEDDAH, May 3 (R) — Saudi Arabia, the world's largest oil exporter, today announced it will have a 42 billion Saudi riyal (\$13 billion) surplus after spending a record 298 billion riyals (about \$90 billion) under its new budget.

The official Saudi Press Agency quoted Crown Prince Fahd as saying after a cabinet meeting to approve the new budget that it "stresses productive fields such as agriculture, roads, hospitals and industrial development."

Information Minister Mohammed Abdo Yamani said after the cabinet meeting chaired by King Khalid that revenues for the fiscal year beginning on Tuesday would be 340 billion riyals (\$100 billion) and the surplus would be put in the country's reserves.

The budget for the current fiscal year set revenues at 262 billion riyals (about \$80 billion) with a surplus of 17 billion riyals (\$5 billion).

Mexico opens \$1b petrochemical plant

MEXICO CITY, May 3 (R) — President Jose Lopez Portillo inaugurated the one billion dollar La Cangejera petrochemical complex in Veracruz, eastern Mexico.

The complex will produce 3.5 million tonnes of basic petrochemical products annually, raising Mexico's yearly petrochemical production to 12.4 million tonnes, the state oil monopoly PEMEX said.

PEMEX officials said that by next year Mexico will have a surplus of about \$170 million in the balance between imports and exports of petrochemical products.

U.S.-Japan car export pact worries EEC

BRUSSELS, May 3 (R) — The European Common Market Commission said yesterday that it has asked Japan and the United States for urgent clarification about Japan's agreement to limit car exports to the U.S.

EEC officials said Common Market authorities, already under pressure from Japanese car imports, were worried that the U.S.-Japan agreement could mean that extra sales would be diverted from the U.S. market to the EEC.

In a statement, the EEC commission did not specifically say that it would demand a similar voluntary restraint agreement between Japan and the European Community.

But it said it would study the impact of the U.S.-Japan accord at its weekly meeting next Wednesday and report back to the governments of the 10 EEC member states.

"The commission has asked urgently for clarification from the

Japanese and United States authorities and will be considering the details and implications for world trade," the commission statement said.

Japanese Prime Minister Zenko Suzuki made clear Friday that he saw no automatic link between the U.S. pact and restraint of exports to the EEC and Canada.

EEC commission officials admit that their requests for similar treatment are weakened by the fact that a number of countries, including Italy, France and Britain, are already restricting imports of Japanese cars.

But after taking 10.4 per cent of the EEC car market last year, Japanese car sales have continued to cause problems in some EEC countries this year, particularly Belgium.

This has strengthened pressures for protectionist barriers if no voluntary restraint agreement with Japan is reached, EEC sources said.

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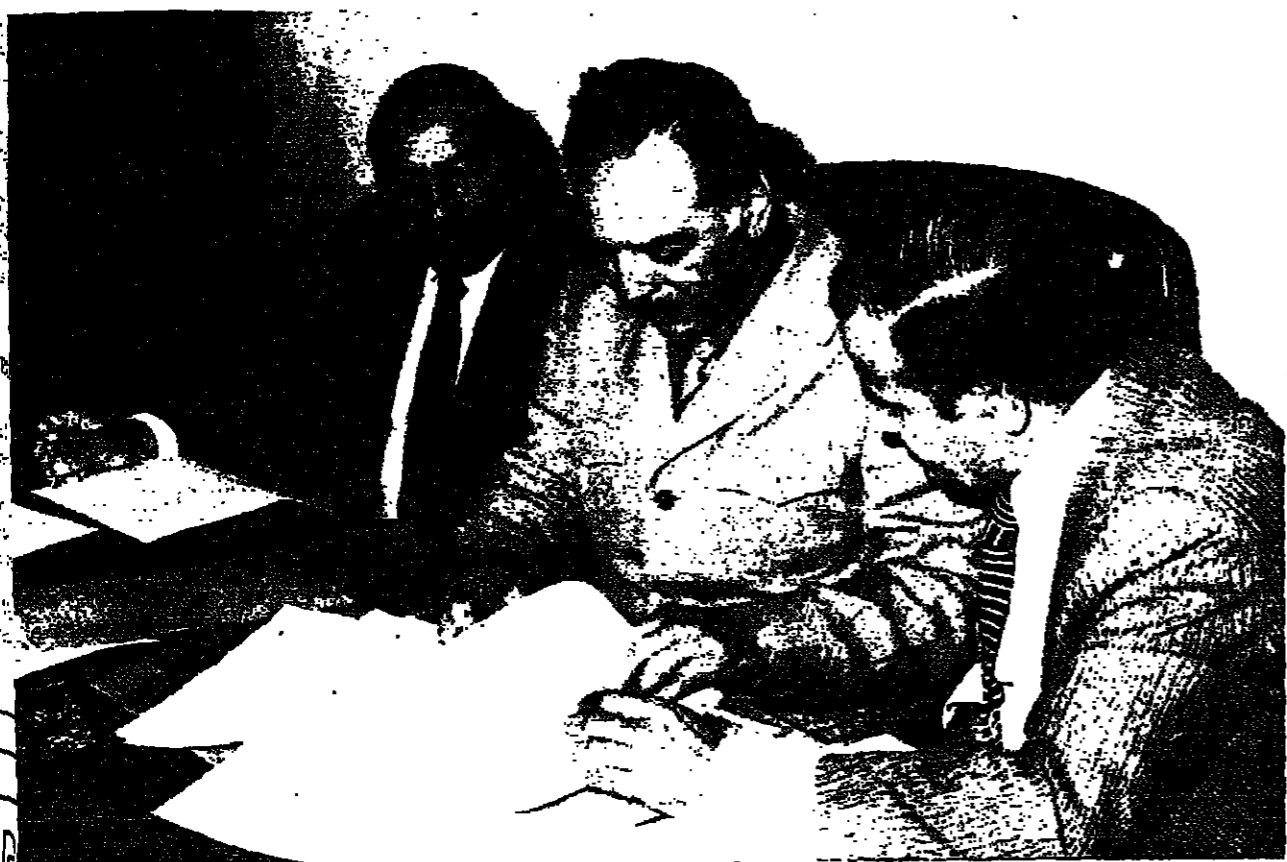
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Handwritten signature or note at the bottom of the page.

Steyr wins transport contract

Sunday morning, May 3, 1981, the Iraqi-Jordanian Land Transport Company, a joint organisation of the governments of Jordan and Iraq, concluded their first voluminous hauling management contract with the Austrian industrial enterprise Steyr-Daimler-Puch AG.



The contract represents a multimillion Jordan dinar deal. In its initial stage, the project starts with 300 Steyr cargo forwarding units.

Steyr, the largest Austrian truck producer, joined with the Filipino management group Guideco and Dutch trailer specialists Nootboom for this undertaking.

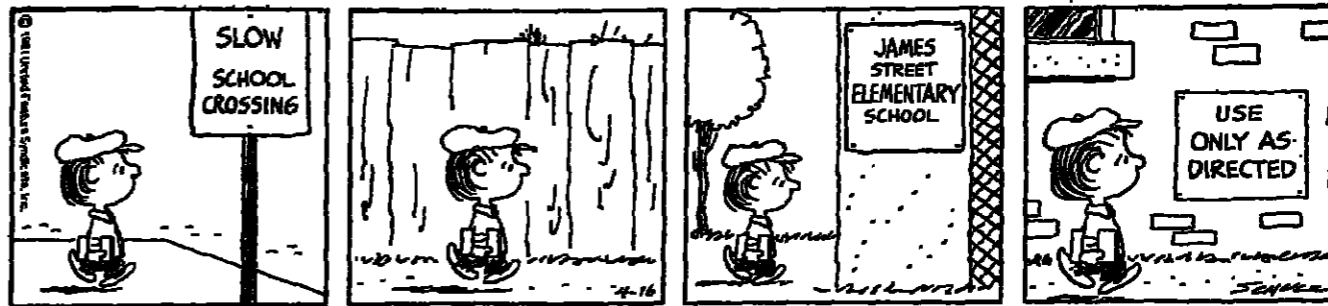
The main route leads from Aqaba to Baghdad. Four workshops in Baghdad, Rutba, Amman and Aqaba shall secure a service network under the supervision of Steyr specialists.

H.E. Mr. Tarek Kafy, Director General of the Iraqi-Jordanian joint venture, confirmed the importance of this undertaking for both brotherly countries.



Steyr's Director, Dr. Josef Ladenbauer, on behalf of his group expressed his gratitude towards both governments and pledged professional execution of this key job in the Middle East.

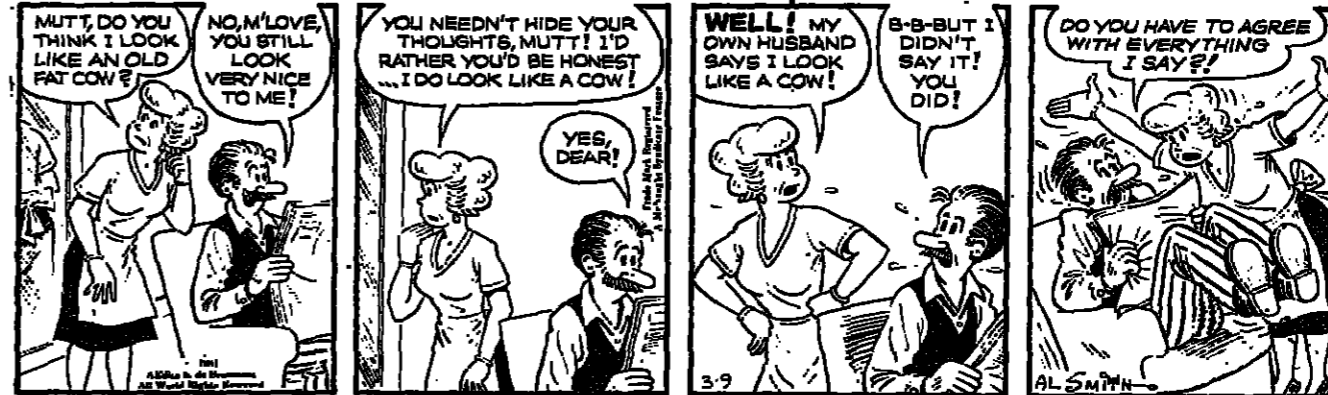
Peanuts



Andy Capp



Mutt 'n' Jeff



GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES E. GOREN
© 1981 by Chicago Tribune

Both vulnerable. East deals.

NORTH
♠ 1098
♥ K64
♦ A542
♣ KJ9

EAST
♠ K63
♥ AQ7
♦ KQ108
♣ Q63

SOUTH
♠ AQJ742
♥ 82
♦ J6
♣ A54

The bidding:
East South West North
1 NT 2 ♠ Pass 3 ♠
Pass 4 ♠ Pass Pass
Pass

Opening lead: Jack of ♣.

The play of the cards is an art, not a science. Therefore, no amount of coaching will make the average player become an expert. But there are many facets of technique that can be learned with a minimum of study. The counting of a hand is an example.

South's overall of East's opening no trump bid needs no sanction from this department. Despite the fact that he had no distributional values, North felt that his high cards merited a raise, and South boldly pushed on to game.

West led the jack of hearts, and declarer could see three sure losers in the red suits. (East had to have the heart ace for his no trump opener.) Therefore, it seemed that the fate of the contract hinged on successful spade and club finesses. There was a slight additional chance that East held only a doubleton ace-queen of hearts. That possibility vanished quickly when East followed to the first trick with the seven, and the defense continued with two more rounds of hearts.

Declarer ruffed the third round, crossed to the ace of diamonds and successfully passed the ten of spades. When this won, declarer continued with the nine, running it again as East played low, and West sluffed a heart.

Before making the "automatic" play of drawing the last trump, declarer paused to review what he knew about the hands. He had seen 23 high-card points in his hand and dummy, and West had shown up with 1 point—the jack of hearts. Therefore, East had to have every one of the missing points to give him the 16 points he needed for his one no trump opening bid. That meant that the finesse for the queen of clubs was doomed to fail!

There is nothing in the Laws of Bridge that says that declarer is honor bound to make a play that must lose. Indeed, declarer found a way to give himself a 50 percent chance of bringing home his contract.

Instead of drawing the last trump, declarer led the jack of clubs from dummy. East covered and declarer won the ace. Now he drew the last trump, then led a club to dummy's nine. This maneuver, known as a "backward finesse," succeeded and the contract rolled home.

THE BETTER HALF

By Vinson

THE Daily Crossword

By Rose Santora

ACROSS
1 Enthusiastic
7 Samoan capital
11 New Deal monogram
14 Mated
15 Eternal damnation
17 Wandering aimlessly
18 Extreme
19 Dialect of India
20 — Kelt
21 Tidings
22 June grads.
23 Aries
25 Siamese
27 Dice rolls

30 Arm bones
33 Netherlands Antilles island
36 Games buildings
38 Color
39 Being foolhardy
42 Alphabet start
43 Percolates
44 "No Men — Island!"
45 Occupied
47 Most foxy
49 Pianist
Waller
51 Singer
Cole
52 Cup handle

55 Apartment
57 Shake — (get going)
60 Pocohontas'
John
62 Girasol
64 Luncheon
65 Barbecue place
68 Ball — (energetic one)
67 Tristful
68 Bede
69 Landlords of old
Italy

DOWN
1 Colorful fishes
2 Rock-bottom fields
3 Snow
4 Blue flag
5 Shoot off again
6 Clock setting letters
7 At the drop of —
8 Skin
9 — ease (anxious)
10 London
11 "Can a man take — ?"
12 Attracted

13 National League team
16 Ultimate
20 Appears
24 — garde
26 Silence
27 Speak out
28 Stairpost
29 Talking potshots
31 Emanation
32 Notepad
33 Quare
34 — Longa, Italy
35 Boomeranged
37 Confused
40 Verbal contraction
41 Trained fine
46 Consumed
48 Warriars
50 Flavored
52 Impish
53 Eagle
54 Descartes et al.
55 Sky objects
56 Sappy palm
58 Poem by Byron
59 Kind of sch.
61 Switch positions
bosom . . . ?"
63 One — kind
64 Male animal

Yesterday's Puzzle Solved:

CLIMP BUBIS WACK
OLIVE GABAT ALICE
BOYA ORATE NAME
LAVONESS WANDSON
ETICH SILIM
MARITIAS SYALIN
LAGE ANTI EDDUCE
QUEST FOOT BEILIN
PLINIO SLEP TIME
SITAINS RAISING
WATIS APIS
HANDLEWITHCARE
ARRIA RESTIN BILLE
SCAR WAIWE ELSA
ROLD ARTIE LEEB

JUMBLE

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME
by Henri Arnold and Bob Lee

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

NARBD
ROAPE
GROANJ
INDATE

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Print answer here: ○○○○○○
(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumbles: NAIVE TAKEN COMEDY ATTAIN
Answer: What her escort was in—ATTENDANCE

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